

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200
FAX (415) 904-5400



Fri-10b

May 10, 2003

TO: Coastal Commissioners and Interested Public

FROM: Peter M. Douglas, Executive Director
Sarah Christie, Legislative Coordinator

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR MAY 2003

CONTENTS: This report provides summaries and status of bills that affect the Coastal Commission and California's Coastal Program as well as bills that staff has identified as coastal related legislation.

Note: This information can be accessed through the Commission's World Wide Web Homepage at www.coastal.ca.gov

Please contact Sarah Christie, Legislative Coordinator, at (916) 445-6067 with any questions on the material contained in this report.

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

April 10 Spring Recess begins upon adjournment
April 21 Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess
May 2 Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills
May 9 Last day for policy committees to report non-fiscal bills to Floor
May 30 Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report fiscal bills to the Floor
June 6 Last day for bills to pass House of Origin
June 15 Budget Bill must be passed by midnight
July 11 Last day for policy committees to meet and report all bills from first house
July 18 Summer recess begins upon adjournment
August 18 Legislature reconvenes
August 29 Last day for fiscal committees to report fiscal bills from first house to the Floor
Sept. 1-12 Floor session only. No committees may meet
Sept 12 Interim recess begins upon adjournment

PRIORITY LEGISLATION

AB 16 (Jackson) Oil and Gas Development

A reintroduction of AB 556 and AB 2327 from previous sessions, this bill would require that all new or expanded oil and gas production produced offshore must be transported onshore by pipeline, rather than by tanker or barge. Once onshore, the oil must be shipped via pipeline to an onshore processing facility. It also requires the use of best achievable technology for well abandonment.

Introduced	012/02/02
Status	Passed Assembly Natural Resources, Passed Assembly Appropriations, On Assembly Floor

AB 90 (Wyland) Coastal Commission: Membership

This bill would fix terms for all coastal commissioners at 4 years, but provide that the Governor's appointees continue to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

Introduced	01/08/03
Status	Referred to Assembly Natural Resources

AB 105 (Wiggins) Agriculture Land Preservation

This bill would repeal the provisions establishing the Coastal Farmland Preservation Program, and appropriate to the Department of Conservation \$48,000,000 from Proposition 40 funds of those proceeds from the bond act for grants under the California Farmland Conservancy Program.

Introduced	01/10/03
Status	Passed Assembly Natural Resources, Passed Assembly Ag & Water, Referred to Assembly Appropriations

AB 121 (Simitian) Large Passenger Vessels: Water Quality

Federal law prohibits any state from prohibiting the discharge of sewage or graywater from large passenger vessels, unless the state applies to, and receives approval from, the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The bill would direct the SWRCB to apply for such authority with the EPA, and authorize the state to prohibit the discharge of both sewage and gray water by large passenger vessels operating in the marine waters of the state if the request is approved by the EPA administrator. The bill would require an owner or operator of a large passenger vessel, as defined, to submit quarterly reports to the SWRCB itemizing the offloading or release of waste material from that vessel that occurred during the previous calendar quarter while the vessel was located in the marine waters of the state.

Introduced	02/12/02
Status	Re-referred to Assembly ES&TM
Last Amended	04/22/03

AB 204 (Nation) Motor Vehicles

This bill would authorize the Coastal Conservancy to establish the Transportation Fund for Clean Water Subaccount, for the acquisition of open space, and the protection, restoration, and enhancement of streams, creeks, wetlands and watersheds. The bill would impose a fee of up to \$4, to be collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles, upon the registration or renewal of registration of every motor vehicle registered in the county of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, or Sonoma for purposes of funding the account, should at least three of those counties choose to participate in the program. Ten percent of the funds collected would go to the Regional Water Quality Control Board to fund transportation-related water quality projects.

Introduced	01/28/03
Status	Passed Assembly Natural Resources, Referred to Assembly Transportation
Last Amended	03/20/03

AB 260 (Jackson) Litter

This bill declares that Caltrans is devoting insufficient attention to litter cleanup on state highways in environmentally sensitive areas, and would require the department to assign a high priority to litter cleanup along state highway segments adjoining streams, rivers, beaches, the ocean, and other environmentally sensitive areas.

Introduced	02/04/03
Status	Passed Assembly Transportation Committee, Passed Assembly Natural Resources Committee, Referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee
Last Amended	03/20/03
Commission Position	Support

AB 314 (Kehoe) Desalination Facilities

This bill declare that it shall be the established policy of this state to the development of desalination projects for public entities, and that these projects should be eligible for assistance and funding on an equal basis with projects for water supply reliability and efficiency, and should comply with all applicable environmental laws..

Introduced	02/07/03
Status	Passed Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife Committee
Last Amended	04/01/03

AB 586 (Koretz) Litter and Marine Debris

This bill would impose a 2-cent fee on retailers who provide disposable plastic bags or cups made from less than 40% recycled material, and require that commercial establishments that encourage smoking outside their facilities provide ashtrays for cigarette butts. The fees would be divided between the Coastal Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Conservation, CalTrans, for the purpose of providing grants to local governments and non-profit organizations for project related to recycling, litter control and reducing marine debris and litter.

Introduced	02/18/03
Status	Referred to Assembly Natural Resources Committee. Bill held in Committee
Last Amended	04/22/03

AB 907 (Pavley) Environmental Education

This bill would require the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education to adopt statewide content standards for environmental education, as defined. The Board would be required to adopt content and performance standards for the new curriculum.

Introduced	02/20/03
Status	Passed Assembly Education Committee, Referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.
Last Amended	04/21/03
Commission Position	Support

AB 947 (Jackson) Ocean Resources

This bill would require all state agencies to follow five priorities when planning and constructing coastal erosion projects in the following order: hazard avoidance, restoring natural sand supplies, beach nourishment, structure relocation, hard structure development. The bill would also require applicable state agencies, including the Coastal Commission, to complete a Coastal Sediment Management Master Plan within two years.

Introduced	02/20/03
Status	Passed Assembly Natural Resources Committee, Referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee
Last Amended	04/22/03

AB 974 (Nation) Coastal Zone: Native American Sites

This bill would amend section 30244 of the Coastal Act to require require avoidance and mitigation measures for new development that would adversely impact archeological and paleontological resources, and protect Native American cultural sites and sacred sites from significant disturbance.

Introduced	02/20/03
Status	Passed Assembly Natural Resources Committee, Referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee
Last Amended	04/22/03
Commission Position	Support

AB 1212 (Pavley) Coastal Development: Permits

This bill would require that any coastal development permit issued for the purpose of sand replenishment must Include a condition for onsite monitoring, and prohibit any the permit from being issued until the applicant provides a plan for onsite monitoring and supervision.

Introduced	02/21/03
Status	Passed Assembly Natural Resources Committee, Referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1517 (Plescia) Stormwater

This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature to utilize science based, results oriented, cost-effective water quality programs that draw upon the strengths of municipalities and reduce duplication of state and local agencies when implementing stormwater permits.

Introduced	02/21/03
Status	Referred to Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Last Amended	04/07/03

SB 18 (Burton) Sacred Sites

This is a spot bill relating to the protection of Native American sacred sites.

Introduced 12/02/02

SB 68 (Alpert) Water Quality: San Diego Bay

This bill would establish the San Diego Bay Advisory Committee for Ecological Assessment. The bill would require the committee to prepare a report relating to the water quality and regulation of the San Diego Bay. The bill would require the committee to submit the report to the Legislature, the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, the state board, and the California Coastal Commission. Representatives to the committee may be appointed by the Governor, the San Diego Board of Supervisors, the US Navy, the San Diego City Council, the San Diego Port Tenants Association, the Industrial Environmental Association, the San Diego Unified Port District, the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, the City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Department, the State Water Resources Control Board, the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Coastal Commission.

Introduced 01/17/03
Status Passed Senate E.Q., Referred to Senate Appropriations
Last Amended 04/01/03

SB 196 (Kuehl) Regional Boards: Membership

This bill would amend the Porter Cologne Act to specify that appointments to Regional Water Quality Control Boards who are appointed pursuant to the existing requirement that they be "associated" with municipal and/or county government, be elected officials to a city council or Board of Supervisors.

Introduced 02/13/03
Status Passed Senate E.Q., On Senate Floor

SB 216 (Sher) Endangered Species Recovery

Existing law requires the Department of Fish and Game to develop and implement a recovery strategy pilot program for the Greater Sandhill crane, and authorizes the Fish and Game Commission, based on recommendations from the department, to identify four additional candidate, threatened, or endangered species for which the department is required to develop and implement a recovery strategy. Under existing law, the pilot program is repealed as of January 1, 2004. This bill would continue that existing law beyond January 1, 2004, by extending the repeal date to January 1, 2009.

Introduced 02/13/03
Status Referred to Senate NR&W

SB 236 (Alpert) Fishing: Bottom Trawling

This bill would prohibit the Department of Fish and Game from authorizing the use of trawl nets to take fish or other marine life from the ocean floor, unless the Fish and Game Commission determines that the operator of each vessel participates in an observer program, and that the bottom trawling does not produce a bycatch of more than 15% by weight of the target catch, and does not cause significant environmental harm to the ocean floor. The bill would allow the use of trawl nets for scientific research and to target certain fish in a manner in which the nets and related gear do not contact the ocean floor. The bill also grants authority to the Fish and Game Commission to manage all bottom trawl fisheries not currently managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service, including Halibut, Sea Cucumber, Pink Shrimp, and Ridgeback, Spot and Golden Prawns.

Introduced 02/14/03
Status Passed Senate NR&W, Referred to Senate Appropriations
Last Amended 04/02/03

SB 318 (Alpert) Desalinated Water

This bill would require that Urban Water Management Plans, prepared by urban water suppliers and submitted to the Department of Water Resources, must include a description of the opportunities for providing water via desalination.

Introduced 02/19/03
Status Passed Senate Ag and Water, Referred to Senate Appropriations
Last Amended 04/08/03

SB 445 (Kuehl) Coastal Access: State Coastal Conservancy

Existing law requires the State Coastal Conservancy to open at least three public accessways per year. This bill would modify that requirement by stating that this requirement only applies to the extent funds are available. The bill also shifts responsibilities previously assigned to the Director of the Commission to the Executive Directors of both the Commission and the Conservancy. These responsibilities include:

- Proof of non-profit eligibility
- Approval of a management plan
- Determination of whether the accessway is being managed properly for purposes of reclaiming or reassigning the interest in the property

Introduced 02/20/03
Status Passed Senate NR&W, Referred to Senate Appropriations
Last Amended 04/22/03

SB 619 (Duchenev) Housing

As amended, the relevant section of this bill would amend Section 30604 of the Coastal Act to encourage low and moderate income housing, and prevent the Commission and issuing agencies from requiring measures that reduce residential densities of low and moderate income housing project below the density sought by an applicant if that density is within the permitted density established by local zoning, unless a finding is made that the density sought by the applicant cannot feasibly be accommodated on the site in a manner that is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200) or the certified local coastal program. The bill also makes legislative findings that efficient land use is in fact protective of coastal resources.

Introduced 02/20/03
Status Passed Senate H&CD, Referred to Senate Natural Resources
Last Amended 04/21/03

Commission Position: Oppose Unless Amended. Recommend Neutral.

SB 681 (Morrow) Coastal Commission: Permits

This bill would prohibit coastal development permit conditions that require environmental mitigations for repairing or maintaining seawalls.

Introduced 02/21/03
Status Referred to Senate Natural Resources
Commission Position: Oppose

SB 744 (Dunn) Housing

This bill would create the Housing Accountability Committee, consisting of 5 members appointed as specified, to hear appeals of local government decisions that deny or condition affordable housing projects. It would exempt conditions or mitigation measures imposed pursuant to a coastal development permit.

Introduced 02/21/03
Status Passed Senate Housing, Referred to Senate Appropriations
Last Amended 04/21/03